

REMARKS

The Office Action has been received and reviewed. In light of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Claims 1-10 and 17-28 are currently pending in the application. Claims 11-16 are canceled.

Claims 1-7, 12-19, and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Narasimha (U.S. Publication 2004/0160918). Claims 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Narasimha in view of Le et al. (U.S. Patent 6,556,821). Claims 10, 11, 20, 21, and 25-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Narasimha in view of Kransmo et al. (U.S. Publication 2003/0016639).

The present claims have been amended to clarify the novel aspects of the invention as shown in Figure 3. Generally, CDMA based cellular systems include in the mobile handsets a preferred roaming list (PRL) containing fields for storing system ID (SID) values and network ID (NID) values as shown in Figure 2. As discussed in the background, the PRL is not conducive to handling roaming in foreign countries (e.g. Europe) because of the large number of SID and NID values which would need to be stored. Accordingly, the present invention, alters the PRL by encoding and storing the Network Operator Identifier (NOI) in the NID value field of the PRL. (See Figure 3) Far fewer NOIs are required to handle roaming in different countries. The NOI comprises a mobile country code (MCC) and a network operator code (NOC). Special SID values are then stored in the SID value fields corresponding to those NID value fields which contain an encoded NOI. Hence, the mobile handset can either search the NID value field directly for an encoded NOI value or search the SID value field for these special values and decode the NOI from the corresponding NID value field.

Specifically, claim 1 recites “search a network identification (NID) value field of a preferred roaming list for an entry with the NOI.” (Claim 1; each independent claim contains analogous language) Whereas, Narasimha discloses the standard PRL table containing SID and NID value fields. (see Table 1) Narasimha does not discuss encoding and storing NOI values in the NID value fields of the PRL as required in the present claims. Although Kransmo does

disclose MCC and MNC values (which are arguably equivalent to the NOI), it does not discuss encoding and storing these values in the PRL as required in the present invention. Similarly, Le fails to meet these limitations.

It appears the Examiner may also be arguing whether the distinction between NID and NOI values is valid. However, NID and NOI values are both recognized under the CDMA standard and are recited separately in the claims. Hence, the Examiner cannot argue the difference is obvious.

Therefore, for at least these reasons, Narasimha, Kransmo and Le fail to anticipate or obviate the present invention and the rejected claims should now be allowed.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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